

## Coins

# *Foreign coins plentiful, without cost of travel*

By Roger Boye

HERE IS ANOTHER reader question from the holiday mailbags.

Q—I would like to start collecting coins from other countries, but how can I get coins without a lot of expense? I can't afford to travel overseas for a pocketful of coins—J. T., Chicago.

A—First, check several coin stores. Most coin dealers come across many foreign coins and

place the common ones in a box to sell for a few cents each. For \$5, you should be able to buy coins from at least 25 countries, if you check enough stores.

Also, some collectors get foreign coins from banks or vending machine companies. [For example, a surprising number of foreign coins are found in parking meters.] And, another way is to contact any relative or friend planning a trip

overseas, and ask that person to come back with a pocketful of coins.

The mints of several countries put out special coin sets, roughly equivalent to United States proof or mint [uncirculated] sets. A publication by Amos Press, titled "How to Order Foreign Coins" [\$2.50 to P.O. Box 150, Sidney, Ohio 45365], lists countries which offer numismatic services to collectors, and those which do not.